



**The Comptroller General  
of the United States**

Washington, D.C. 20548

## Decision

Matter of: Jacksonville Naval Air Station Association

File: B-227365

Date: June 8, 1987

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### DIGEST

An association that represents federal employees is not an interested party to protest the contracting agency's decision to contract for services rather than perform them in-house, since the association is not an actual or prospective offeror under the challenged solicitation.


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### DECISION

Jacksonville Naval Air Station Association protests the proposed award of a contract under the Department of the Navy request for proposals (RFP) No. N62467-87-R-0010 for public works shop support at the Naval Air Station in Jacksonville, Florida. The protest concerns the advisability of contracting for the services, pursuant to Office of Management and Budget Circular No. A-76, rather than performing them in-house.

Under the Competition in Contracting Act of 1984, 31 U.S.C. § 3551(2) (Supp. III 1985), and our Bid Protest Regulations, 4 C.F.R. § 21.0(a) (1986), a protest may be brought only by an "interested party," defined as an actual or prospective bidder or offeror whose direct economic interest would be affected by the award or failure to award the contract involved. Here, the protester, an association representing federal employees, is not an actual or prospective bidder or offeror under the solicitation being challenged. As a result, the protester is not an interested party eligible to maintain a protest. American Federation of Local Employees Local 1513, B-219590.4, June 27, 1986, 86-2 C.P.D. ¶ 14.

The protest is dismissed.

  
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